

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—The scheme contained in the Note 2 (ii) of the amendment in question is being given effect to gradually and as far as possible.

Blocking of Canal Jetties

141. Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether they were aware that the Municipal Council, Mattancheri, had blocked the canal jetties there against line boats landing and taking passengers there ;

(2) how long this blockade lasted ;

(3) whether the Government were aware of the difficulties which the public had to undergo owing to this blockade ;

(4) and whether the Government had taken any action to relieve the public of the difficulties ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(1) Yes.

(2) From 13th Edavam 1108 to 3rd Mithunam 1108.

(3) Yes.

(4) Yes.

Reduction of Land Revenue Assessment—Reports.

142. Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to place on the table the reports they have received since they received notice of the proposal of the resolution to reduce the Land Revenue Assessment by 12½ per cent up to the passing of the order on the resolution from the Diwan Peishkar?

Rama Vamha Tampuran.—The Diwan Peishkar's views are contained in his speech, embodied on pages 589 to 592 of the Legislative Council Proceedings, Volume IV. A report subsequently received from him dated 4th March 1933 is placed on the table. (*Appendix VII*).

Committee to scrutinise Educational Survey Report.

143. Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) at what stage the Educational Survey Report submitted by the Director of Public Instruction stands at present ;

(2) whether they intend to appoint a Committee to scrutinise it ;

(3) if so, whether they have settled the personnel of the Committee ;

(4) whether there is any truth that they have given up the idea of having Mr. P. V. Seshu Ayyar as the President of the Committee ;

(5) under what principle they are going to select the personnel of the Committee?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(1) and (2) A Committee has been appointed to examine the Report.

(3), (4) and (5). The Member's attention is drawn to the D. P. D. 2. 1249/1106, dated 8th July 1933 published in the Government Gazette, dated 24th Mithunam 1108 announcing the personnel of the Committee.

Mr. K. G. Nayar.—Were any ladies nominated to the Committee?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—No.

Mr. K. G. Nayar.—May I know why no lady members were selected for this Committee?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—There was no special reason why they were not selected.

Mr. K. G. Nayar.—Did the Government consider at the time of selecting the personnel whether a lady member might also be made a member of this Committee?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I think they went into the question of the necessary persons to serve in the Committee and these persons were selected to whichever sex they belonged. Unfortunately none belonged to the female sex.

Mr. K. G. Nayar.—Was no lady member available for the Government to serve in the Committee?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It was not a question whether a lady member should as a lady member, sit in the Committee. The consideration was only to get sufficiently qualified and interested persons to sit in the Committee. Such persons were selected. Unfortunately none of these was a lady member.

Mr. K. G. Nayar.—Are there no ladies in the State sufficiently qualified to serve in the Committee?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—That was not the question before the Government. Government was not concerned whether there were lady members sufficiently qualified or not. They wanted certain persons in this Committee and those persons were selected. They did not want to know whether a lady member as lady member, should be selected or not. There was not the intention to give representation to ladies as such.

Mr. K. G. Nayar.—Is female education one of the items to be considered by this Committee?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Was there any idea of having Mr. P. V. Seshu Ayyar as President?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I do not know whether there was any such idea.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Was there a suggestion from the Director of Public Instruction to that effect?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I want notice.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan —May I know why they wanted a certain set of persons to serve in the Committee?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—They had no idea to give representation to ladies as ladies. They wanted only a set of educational experts, persons interested in the problem, so that Government may get definite information in the matter.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—If there was some special aspect regarding the education of girls, was there not a special necessity to consider whether a lady member should be appointed in the Committee?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—All the information that the Committee might require to answer the terms of reference touching female education can very well be gathered by taking evidence from the Inspectress, Deputy Inspectresses and Head Mistresses. That is only a minor point. It was not thought necessary that a lady member should be appointed in the Committee.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—May I know whether a lady member would have been a better expert than a male member?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I do not think so.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Are we to understand that the members of the Committee are educational experts?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I said persons who may be interested in the problem in different lines. One of the members is the Chairman of a Municipality. There are several aspects of the question and persons interested in the different aspects of the question have been selected.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon —Was communal representation a prominent feature in the selection?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—May I know what the Chairman of the Municipality has to do with it?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Some of the schools are proposed to be given over to the Municipality. A lot of important points has been raised regarding that, which specially relate to Municipalities.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Was there a representation made to the Government that a lady member should be nominated?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—There was a representation from the Trichur Ladies' Association.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Are the Government considering that representation now?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—No. Government have answered that whatever information they might have may be placed before the Committee.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know whether the Director of Public Instruction was instructed to suggest names for the Committee?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I am not sure.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Can I take it that the Director had no hand in the selection of the candidates?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Government selected.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Had the Director anything to do with the selection of the personnel?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I think there might have been some discussions with the Director on the point. I want notice to answer more specifically on the point.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Is the Director the author of the survey?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Will it be proper for him to recommend the personnel of the Committee?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I did not say that he was consulted. There might have been some discussion.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Was the Government guided in the selection of the personnel by the suggestions made by the Director?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I do not think they were led by any suggestions.

Gothuruthi School.

144. Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether the recognition of the Gothuruthi School has been withdrawn;

(2) if not, why not?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—(1) No.

(2) The Manager of the school tendered an unqualified apology for his conduct, and Government thought it fit to take a lenient view of the matter.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Was it a written apology?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—I want notice.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—To whom was the apology, was it to the Director or the Government?

Mr. K. Narasimha Pai.—A written apology was tendered to the Government.